



For Immediate Release
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Vermont Unemployment Rate Rises to 3.1 percent in April

The Vermont Department of Labor announced today that the seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for April was 3.1 percent. This reflects a one-tenth of one percentage point increase from the revised March rate (3.0 percent). The national rate in April was 4.4 percent. As of the prior month's preliminary data, the Burlington-South Burlington Metropolitan NECTA was tied for the ninth lowest unemployment rate in the country for all metropolitan areas at 2.6 percent (not-seasonally-adjusted). Overall, Vermont's unemployment rate was tied for the sixth lowest in the country for the same time period.

Commissioner's Message

"There are currently fewer than 11,000 unemployed Vermonters; levels not seen since 2001. At the heart of the last recession, there were over 25,000 unemployed Vermonters. But even having one Vermonter unemployed and unable to provide for themselves and their family is too many. The Vermont Department of Labor has twelve career resource centers all-across the state that are equipped and ready to assist job seekers, employers and all Vermonters alike. At our regional centers, individuals can get help with resume writing, mock-interviews and learn about skill enhancement opportunities through education and training. Our employer services include creating apprenticeships, advertising job openings, organizing job fairs, and promoting internships. There are many paths to success and Labor is available to help people find the path that is right for them", said Labor Commissioner Lindsay Kurrle.

Chart 1. Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted

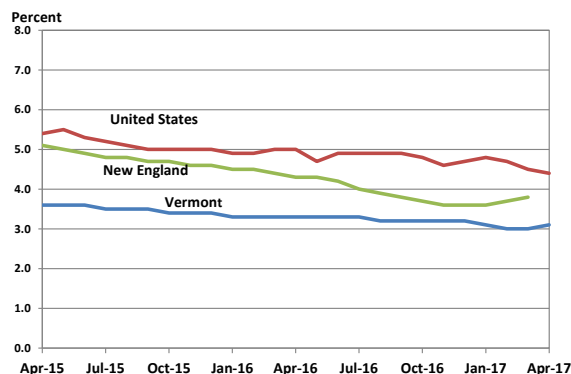
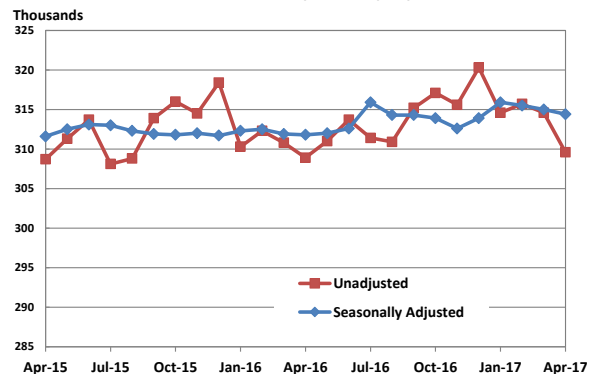


Chart 2. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment



State of Vermont Overview

The Vermont seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate increased by one-tenth of one percentage point in April to a statewide average of 3.1 percent. The comparable United States rate is 4.4 percent which experienced a one-tenth of one percentage point decrease from the revised March estimate. The seasonally-adjusted Vermont data for April show the Vermont civilian labor force decreased by 200 from the prior month's revised estimate. The number of employed decreased by 400 and the number of unemployed increased by 150. None of the changes were statistically significant in the seasonally-adjusted series.

The April unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 2.3 percent in Burlington-South Burlington to 6.6 percent in Derby (note: local labor market area unemployment rates are not seasonally-adjusted). For comparison, the April unadjusted unemployment rate for Vermont was 3.3 percent which reflects a decrease of two-tenths of one percentage point from the revised unadjusted March level and a decrease of one-tenth of one percentage point from a year ago.

Analysis of Job Changes by Industry

Not-Seasonally-Adjusted

The preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' jobs estimates for April show a decrease of 5,000 jobs when compared to the revised March numbers. There was an increase of 400 jobs between the preliminary and the revised March estimates due to the inclusion of more data. The monthly decrease seen in the April numbers was attributable to seasonal movements in leisure and hospitality. The broader economic trends can be detected by focusing on the over-the-year changes in this data series. As detailed in the preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' April data, Total Private industries have increased by 500 jobs (0.2 percent) and Government (including public education) employment has increased by 200 jobs (0.3 percent) in the past year.

Seasonally-Adjusted

The seasonally-adjusted data for April reports a decrease of 600 jobs from the revised March data. As with the 'not-seasonally-adjusted' data, this over-the-month change is from the revised March numbers which experienced an increase of 400 jobs from the preliminary estimates. The seasonally-adjusted over-the-month changes in April were mixed at the sub-sector level. Those with a notable percent increase include: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+200 jobs or +4.5%), Wholesale Trade (+300 jobs or +3.3%), and Professional & Technical Services (+400 jobs or +2.8%). Sectors with a notable percent decrease include: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (-100 jobs or -3.4%), Administrative & Waste Services (-200 jobs or -1.8%), and Local Government (-400 jobs or -1.3%).

The Unemployment and Jobs Report for May is scheduled to be released on Friday, June 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Table 1. Vermont Labor Force Estimates, seasonally adjusted

	April 2017	March 2017	April 2016	Change From:	
				April 2017	March 2016
Civilian Labor Force	347,300	347,500	344,550	-200	2,750
Employed	336,550	336,950	333,200	-400	3,350
Unemployed	10,750	10,600	11,350	150	-600
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.1	3.0	3.3	0.1	-0.2

Vermont's labor force, employment and unemployment statistics are produced from a combination of a Statewide survey of households and statistical modeling. The data are produced by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS), a cooperative program with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau) and the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/labforce).

Table 2. Vermont Labor Market Areas, Labor Force Estimates

not seasonally adjusted

Labor Market Area ¹	Civilian Labor Force	April 2017		Unemployment Rate ² (%)		
		Employed	Unemployed	Apr-17	Mar-17	Apr-16
Vermont Total	341,850	330,650	11,200	3.3	3.5	3.4
Barre-Montpelier	25,800	25,000	850	3.2	3.6	3.2
Bennington	10,900	10,500	400	3.8	4.1	4.1
Brattleboro	22,000	21,250	750	3.4	3.1	4.2
Burlington-South Burlington	125,150	122,250	2,900	2.3	2.6	2.4
Derby	12,550	11,700	850	6.6	6.9	6.2
Highgate	10,100	9,750	350	3.7	4.1	3.2
Manchester	11,000	10,550	450	4.2	3.7	4.5
Middlebury	18,400	17,800	550	3.1	3.5	3.1
Morristown-Waterbury	17,350	16,500	850	5.0	5.1	5.0
Newbury	2,800	2,650	100	4.4	4.6	4.0
Northfield-Waitsfield	6,750	6,550	200	3.1	3.4	3.3
Randolph	7,200	6,950	300	3.8	4.1	3.6
Rutland	21,350	20,550	800	3.7	3.6	3.8
Springfield	10,350	9,950	350	3.6	3.2	4.8
St. Johnsbury	13,450	12,850	650	4.7	4.9	4.3
White River Junction	19,750	19,250	450	2.4	2.6	2.6
Woodstock	3,850	3,700	150	3.8	3.0	5.0

¹The area names above are common language titles; for official names of areas including encompassing cities and towns please refer to the Vermont Labor Market Area map (<http://www.vtلمي.info/lmadef2015.pdf>).

²Rate is the unrounded estimates for the number of unemployed divided by total labor force, expressed as a percent.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS) produced by the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/labforce.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau).

Table 3. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, seasonally adjusted (thousands)

NAICS Industry	Apr-17	Mar-17	Apr-16	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Mar-17	Apr-16	Mar-17	Apr-16
Statewide, Total Nonfarm¹	314.4	315.0	311.8	-0.6	2.6	-0.2	0.8
Total Private	258.8	258.9	256.2	-0.1	2.6	0.0	1.0
Mining, Logging and Construction	16.6	16.8	16.5	-0.2	0.1	-1.2	0.6
Mining & Logging	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	15.8	16.0	15.7	-0.2	0.1	-1.3	0.6
Manufacturing	29.1	28.9	30.0	0.2	-0.9	0.7	-3.0
Durable Goods	18.0	18.0	18.9	0.0	-0.9	0.0	-4.8
Non-Durable Goods	11.1	10.9	11.1	0.2	0.0	1.8	0.0
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	55.6	55.3	56.0	0.3	-0.4	0.5	-0.7
Wholesale Trade	9.4	9.1	9.5	0.3	-0.1	3.3	-1.1
Retail Trade	37.9	38.1	38.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-1.0
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	8.3	8.1	8.2	0.2	0.1	2.5	1.2
Financial Activities	11.5	11.7	12.0	-0.2	-0.5	-1.7	-4.2
Finance & Insurance	8.7	8.8	9.0	-0.1	-0.3	-1.1	-3.3
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2.8	2.9	3.0	-0.1	-0.2	-3.4	-6.7
Professional and Business Services	28.1	27.9	27.7	0.2	0.4	0.7	1.4
Professional & Technical Services	14.8	14.4	14.3	0.4	0.5	2.8	3.5
Administrative & Waste Services	10.9	11.1	11.2	-0.2	-0.3	-1.8	-2.7
Education and Health Services	64.6	64.8	64.3	-0.2	0.3	-0.3	0.5
Private Educational Services	13.4	13.5	13.5	-0.1	-0.1	-0.7	-0.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	51.2	51.3	50.8	-0.1	0.4	-0.2	0.8
Leisure and Hospitality	37.8	37.9	34.7	-0.1	3.1	-0.3	8.9
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4.6	4.4	4.4	0.2	0.2	4.5	4.5
Accommodation & Food Services	33.2	33.5	30.3	-0.3	2.9	-0.9	9.6
Other Services	11.0	11.0	10.4	0.0	0.6	0.0	5.8
Government	55.6	56.1	55.6	-0.5	0.0	-0.9	0.0
Federal	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
State	19.1	19.2	18.8	-0.1	0.3	-0.5	1.6
Local	29.6	30.0	29.9	-0.4	-0.3	-1.3	-1.0
Burlington-S. Burlington Metro (NECTA)							
Total Nonfarm	124.6	124.6	125.1	0.0	-0.5	0.0	-0.4

¹Statewide Total Nonfarm is a summed total of major industries. The NAICS industry "Information" is not published seasonally adjusted because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.

Table 4. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, not seasonally adjusted

NAICS Industry	Apr-17	Mar-17	Apr-16	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Mar-17	Apr-16	Mar-17	Apr-16
TOTAL NONFARM	309,600	314,600	308,900	-5,000	700	-1.6	0.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	251,500	256,200	251,000	-4,700	500	-1.8	0.2
GOODS-PRODUCING	43,600	42,600	45,100	1,000	-1,500	2.3	-3.3
MINING, LOGGING AND CONSTRUCTION	15,000	14,200	15,300	800	-300	5.6	-2.0
Mining & Logging	800	700	800	100	0	14.3	0.0
Construction	14,200	13,500	14,500	700	-300	5.2	-2.1
MANUFACTURING	28,600	28,400	29,800	200	-1,200	0.7	-4.0
Durable Goods ¹	17,700	17,600	18,800	100	-1,100	0.6	-5.9
Non-Durable Goods	10,900	10,800	11,000	100	-100	0.9	-0.9
Food Mfg.	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0	0.0	0.0
SERVICE-PROVIDING	266,000	272,000	263,800	-6,000	2,200	-2.2	0.8
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	54,700	54,500	55,000	200	-300	0.4	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	9,400	9,100	9,500	300	-100	3.3	-1.1
Retail Trade	37,300	37,400	37,500	-100	-200	-0.3	-0.5
Food & Beverage Stores	9,800	9,900	9,800	-100	0	-1.0	0.0
General Merchandise Stores	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	100	0.0	3.2
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	0	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	6,800	6,800	6,600	0	200	0.0	3.0
Utilities	1,200	1,200	1,400	0	-200	0.0	-14.3
INFORMATION	4,500	4,600	4,600	-100	-100	-2.2	-2.2
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	11,400	11,600	11,900	-200	-500	-1.7	-4.2
Finance & Insurance	8,700	8,800	9,000	-100	-300	-1.1	-3.3
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,700	2,800	2,900	-100	-200	-3.6	-6.9
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	27,800	26,800	27,400	1,000	400	3.7	1.5
Professional & Technical Services	14,700	14,300	14,400	400	300	2.8	2.1
Administrative & Waste Services	10,600	10,000	10,900	600	-300	6.0	-2.8
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	64,700	65,100	64,700	-400	0	-0.6	0.0
Educational Services	13,700	13,900	13,900	-200	-200	-1.4	-1.4
Colleges and Universities	8,800	8,800	8,900	0	-100	0.0	-1.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	51,000	51,200	50,800	-200	200	-0.4	0.4
Ambulatory Health Care Services	16,800	17,300	17,000	-500	-200	-2.9	-1.2
Hospitals	13,900	13,900	13,700	0	200	0.0	1.5
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	7,400	7,400	7,500	0	-100	0.0	-1.3
Social Assistance	12,900	12,600	12,600	300	300	2.4	2.4
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	33,900	40,100	31,900	-6,200	2,000	-15.5	6.3
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4,000	4,300	3,800	-300	200	-7.0	5.3
Accommodation & Food Services	29,900	35,800	28,100	-5,900	1,800	-16.5	6.4
Accommodation	9,500	15,400	8,900	-5,900	600	-38.3	6.7
Hotels & Motels	8,600	14,100	8,100	-5,500	500	-39.0	6.2
Food Services & Drinking Places	20,400	20,400	19,200	0	1,200	0.0	6.3
OTHER SERVICES	10,900	10,900	10,400	0	500	0.0	4.8
GOVERNMENT	58,100	58,400	57,900	-300	200	-0.5	0.3
Federal Government	6,900	6,800	6,900	100	0	1.5	0.0
State Government Education	10,300	10,400	10,200	-100	100	-1.0	1.0
Other State Government	9,700	9,800	9,400	-100	300	-1.0	3.2
Local Government Education	23,800	24,000	24,100	-200	-300	-0.8	-1.2
Other Local Government	7,400	7,400	7,300	0	100	0.0	1.4

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

¹Publication of Computer & Electrical Equipment Mfg. and Fabricated Metal Products Mfg. has been discontinued as of January 2017.

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.